

AHSN - AHSN 'Christmus Bonus' e-Newsletter 2012 (NB not sp. error, see tail end of letter for explanation)

AHSN WEB-SITE: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/humourstudies>

REMINDER TO REGISTER FOR 19th AHSN COLLOQUIUM, 7-9 FEBRUARY 2013, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE, CITY CAMPUS

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET? If not, please do so as soon as possible. Registration is required for all participants, presenting or not. Please visit the AHSN website and follow the links to Events, Registration, to download the registration form which should be returned to the indicated address at University of Newcastle (NOT University of Sydney, this year).

EXCELLENT VALUE ACCOMMODATION OFFER : The 19th Colloquium's sponsor and preferred accommodation provider, Quest Apartments, is offering delegates special rates for accommodation during the Colloquium. They have reserved apartments for us which are not available for booking by the general public, but **ONLY UNTIL 6 JANUARY 2013**. So if you have not already booked, please hurry. Email: groups.newcastle@questapartments.co.au

Head your email: "Attention: Roxley Blacker". Please state that you are attending the AHSN Colloquium and specify whether a one, two or three bedroom apartment is wanted.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND QUERIES: Please contact the Co-convenors:

Conjoint Prof. Michael Ewans: Michael.Ewans@newcastle.edu.au

Mr Michael Meaney: Michael.Meany@newcastle.edu.au

Also, Michael Ewans Tel: 0434 902 350 or 02 4948 2747

2013 ISHS CONFERENCE, 2-6 JULY 2013, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

The 2013 ISHS Conference will be held from **2-6 July 2013** on the campus of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA. Conference Convenor, Dr Larry Ventis, Dept of Psychology, College of William and Mary. For more information, go directly to the Conference website, which is now open for registration and submission information:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/25th-international-society-for-humor-studies-conference-2013/event-summary-e7aefa94dc5b4a4b9acd4eb8c0aaf548.aspx>

Or email Larry Ventis at: wlvnt@wm.edu

3rd NORTH-EAST TEXAS HUMOR RESEARCH CONFERENCE (NETHRC), "HUMOR IN THE PROFESSIONS, PSYCHOLOGY, PEDAGOGY: INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVES", 22-24 FEBRUARY 2013

At Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, hosted by: The Division of Communication Studies, SMU Meadows Schools of the Arts, and The College of Humanities, Social Sciences & Arts, Texas A&M-Commerce. Website: <http://www.tamuc.edu/humor>

The 3rd North East Texas Humor Research Conference 2013 invites submissions for a multidisciplinary 3-day conference in Dallas, TX. The conference theme is "Humor in the Professions, Psychology, Pedagogy: Intercultural Perspectives." While submissions on the theme are strongly encouraged, all submission in humor research are welcome. NETHRC 2013 will include an opening plenary roundtable and reception, paper sessions, panels, posters, and workshops. Please submit: Abstract for general submission (up to 250 words; plus 1 extra page for images, references, etc.); indicate if paper (20m + Q/A) or poster or either. Panels of 3 papers (90 minutes). Workshops (90 minutes) . Submission email: CHSSA@tamuc.edu

Important Dates:

January 4, 2013: Submission deadline; January 11, 2013: Notification of acceptance; January 22, 2013: Preregistration deadline; February 8, 2013: Deadline for special hotel rate.

Conference Organizers:

Christian F. Hempelmann, Ph. D., Dept of Literature & Languages, Texas A&M-Commerce, c.hempelmann@tamuc.edu

Owen Hanley Lynch, Ph. D., Communication Studies, Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, olynch@mail.smu.edu

Program Committee: Salvatore Attardo, Texas A&M-Commerce; Sean Guillory, Dartmouth; Christian F. Hempelmann, Texas A&M-Commerce; Owen Hanley Lynch, SMU; Lucy Pickering, Texas A&M-Commerce; Jyotsna Vaid, Texas A&M-College Station

Conference Fee:

\$40 preregistration by January 22, 2013 (\$50 on site); \$20 for students (please provide proof of student status); Submission email: CHSSA@tamuc.edu ; Conference fee includes conference refreshments, Friday night reception, Saturday lunch, and Saturday dinner for students. Address for preregistration checks:

NETHRC 2013

College of Humanities, Social Sciences & Arts

P.O. Box 3011

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Commerce, TX 75429-3011

Conference Venue: Umphrey Lee Center, 3300 Dyer Street, SMU campus

Accommodation:

* Holiday Inn Dallas Central – Park Cities , 6070 North Expressway, Dallas, TX 75206, (214) 750-6060 , \$95/night if booked by February 8, 2013, Group reservation code: Humor Conference, Booking link: http://ichotelsgroup.com/redirect?path=rates&brandCode=HI&GPC=HUM&hotelCode=DFWHI&_P_MID=99801505

(0.8 mi from campus; Hotel offers breakfast and a shuttle to the SMU campus). If you're a student interested in sharing a room, please email: CHSSA@tamuc.edu. Closer and more expensive rooms are available at the Lumen: <http://www.hotellumen.com/>

AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION/AMERICAN HUMOR STUDIES ASSOCIATION: CALL FOR PAPERS ALA CONFERENCE, 23-26 MAY 2013, BOSTON

The American Humor Studies Association (AHSA) plans to sponsor two sessions at the 2013 ALA national meeting in Boston in 2013. We seek cogent, provocative, well-researched papers on the following subjects:

1. "Humor in Periodicals: From Punch to Mad"—Abstracts (300 words max) are encouraged on the role of humorous literature in American periodicals from the early national period to the present. Subject adaptable to both humorous periodicals and humor in serious periodicals across a wide time range; thus, title will change to reflect composition of panel.

2. "Reading Humorous Texts"—Abstracts (300 words max.) are encouraged on the interpretation, recovery, or pedagogy of humorous texts from novels and poems to plays and stand-up. Some focus on the act of interpretation of humor in its historical, performative, formal, or other cultural context is encouraged.

Please e-mail abstracts no later than January 15, 2013 to Tracy Wuster (wustert@gmail.com) with the subject line: "AHSa session, 2013 ALA." Notifications will go out no later than January 20, 2013.

HUMOR STUDIES CAUCUS OF THE AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION: CALL FOR PAPERS FOR 21-24 NOVEMBER MEETING, WASHINGTON DC

The Humor Studies Caucus of the American Studies Association is seeking papers for the 2013 ASA Conference: American Studies Association Annual Meeting: "Beyond the Logic of Debt, Toward an Ethics of Collective Dissent", November 21-24, 2013: Hilton Washington DC:

http://www.theasa.net/annual_meeting/page/submit_a_proposal/

Proposals on any aspect of American Humor will be welcome, including but not limited to:

Stand-Up Comedy Jokes Wit Merriment Literary Humor (both high- and low-brow) Richard Pryor Film Satire Will Rogers Comedy Jokes Risibility Sitcoms Laughter Mark Twain Dirty Jokes Lenny Bruce Ventriloquism The Circus Marietta Holley Subtle humor Broad humor Margaret Cho Regional humor Transnational humor Ethnic humor, and even Puns.....

Proposals due by: January 11. Panels will be assembled for submission by the January 26 deadline. Proposals should be no more than 500 words and should include a brief CV (1 page). Please include current ASA membership status. Proposals (and questions) should be sent to Tracy Wuster and Jennifer Hughes: wustert@gmail.com & jahughes@yhc.edu

RE-POSTING: 13TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL AND SYMPOSIUM ON HUMOUR AND LAUGHTER: THEORY, RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS, AT OTTO-VON-GUERICKE UNIVERSITY, MAGDEBURG, SAXONY-ANHALT, GERMANY

Dates: 22nd July to 27th July 2013 Course Director: Professor Willibald Ruch

Local Organiser: Professor Holger Kersten, Otto-von-Guericke University

ISS13 will take place in Magdeburg, Germany. Preliminary information including contact and enquiry addresses is at: <http://www.humoursummerschool.org/13>

Prof. Dr. Holger Kersten

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Email: organiser13@humoursummerschool.org

Take a look and come back to see updates as the program takes shape. We hope it is of interest to you and that you will consider coming to Magdeburg.

Best

wishes,

Willibald

Ruch

RE-POSTING: SMILES ARE EVERYWHERE: BOOK AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

For the past 18 month, AHSN-members Dr Peter Spitzer (Humour Foundation, Australia) and Prof. Bernie Warren (Drama in Education, University of Windsor, Canada) have been collaborating on Smiles Are Everywhere: Integrating Clown-Play into Healthcare Practice (forthcoming, Routledge, 2013). Aimed primarily at healthcare professionals and artists working in healthcare settings, material in the book is also applicable to settings such as schools and seniors centres. It will be a resource for students as well as for educators providing courses, workshops or training for work in healthcare settings.

Drs Warren & Spitzer have developed two developmental programs from their collaboration, based on the themes of the book:

Smiles are Everywhere – aimed at artists, educators and the general public

The Art of Medicine - aimed at physicians, and practitioners in allied health professions and the arts in and for health

Both programs are flexibly designed so that elements can be offered as stand-alone events, or delivered in various formats eg. a lecture or half day /full day experiential workshop. Brochures can be downloaded from: <http://smilesareeverywhere.com/publications/>

For Australia, Prof. Warren will be in Australia on sabbatical from 21 February 2013 for 3 weeks. Spitzer/Warren will be available to deliver these programs: Feb 22 and 23, March 2–7; and 9–11. If you would like to discuss hosting one of them, please contact Peter Spitzer: spitzer@swiftdsl.com.au

Outside Australia, if you would like to discuss hosting one of these programs, please contact Bernie Warren: bernie_warren@hotmail.com

RE-POSTING: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM AHSN MEMBER AND DOCTORAL CANDIDATE, MICHAEL MEANEY, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Michael writes:

Dear Humour Researchers, My PhD project is composed of two parts: a creative project; and an exegesis. For the creative project I have developed a pair of online ‘chat bots’ that interact as ‘comedian’ and ‘straight man’ when a human user delivers them a topic. The project interrogates a range of theoretical positions through a practice-based methodology. In particular, it examines the interaction of human and non-human actors in the scriptwriting and performance of comedy.

I would like to invite you to comment on the performance of my comedy team, The Atomic Playboy and The Radiation Romeo. Please visit my blog at: <http://aimlhumour.blogspot.com.au/>

You'll see at the top of the page a button link to "Play with Atomic and Romeo". This will spawn a new window containing the Flash interface. The interface contains operating instructions and the back-story of the characters. To leave a comment, click on the button, "Please leave your comments here". The blog acts as my production journal. The aim of using a blog for the journal is to engage with an existing community of practice thereby generating a richer and deeper source of data. Thanks in advance,

Michael M Meany

Senior Lecturer, School of Design, Communication and Information Technology

The University of Newcastle, Callaghan NSW 2308

Phone - +61 2 4985 4525

Email - michael.meany@newcastle.edu.au

PS – My chat-bots, Atomic and Romeo, were invited to enter Funniest Computer Ever Competition. Wish me luck!

**RE-POSTING: THE RISE OF THE TRAMP: THE GENIUS OF CHARLIE
CHAPLIN 1914-1917, JANUARY 2013, SYDNEY: SILENT FILM COMEDY SEASON**

On January 6, 13, 20 and 27 Australia's Silent Film Festival is pleased to present restored classic silent film comedy by the legendary screen icon of comedy himself, Charlie Chaplin. Chaplin's spectacular rise to fame in the 1910s was phenomenal, and he was the world's most famous actor/comedian by the end of World War I. This special tribute dedicated to the Master of early cinema comedy focuses on this early period during which he worked at three studios: Keystone (creators of the Keystone Cops), Essanay and Mutual; the latter studios allowing Chaplin much greater creative freedom. The season runs for four weeks with three sessions of 45 minutes on each Sunday. The venue is the Metcalfe Auditorium in the State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney. In all 12 sessions with 24 majestic shorts from the Tramp shall be presented.

Discounted Festival Passes to multiple sessions are available. Details are at website below. Digital presentation with soundtrack.

WEEK ONE

Session 1 @ 12.30-1.30pm KEYSTONE: Mabel's Married Life / ESSANAY: The Bank

Session 2 @ 1.45-2.45pm KEYSTONE: The Rounders / ESSANAY: The Champion

Session 3 @ 3-4pm MUTUAL: The Floorwalker / MUTUAL: The Fireman

WEEK TWO

Session 1 KEYSTONE: The New Janitor / ESSANAY: Carmen

Session 2 KEYSTONE Laughing gas / ESSANAY The Tramp

Session 3 MUTUAL: The Vagabond / MUTUAL: One AM

WEEK THREE

Session 1 KEYSTONE The Masquerader / ESSANAY Police

Session 2 KEYSTONE A Film Johnnie / ESSANAY: Work

Session 3 MUTUAL: The Count / MUTUAL: The Pawnshop

WEEK FOUR

Session 1 KEYSTONE Caught in the Rain / KEYSTONE Dough and Dynamite

Session 2 MUTUAL: Behind the Screen / MUTUAL: The Rink

Session 3 MUTUAL: The Immigrant / MUTUAL: The Adventurer

AUSTRALIA'S SILENT FILM FESTIVAL www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au

Best wishes for the festive Season to you all! If you have not yet made acquaintance with the Roman Centurion
Chrismus Bonus and his colleagues such as Gin Antonicus, I encourage you to do so c/- Messrs Rene Goscinny
and Uderzo and their "Asterix the Gaul" comic book series (Paris: Eds Dargaud, 1961 etc), at:
<http://asterixonline.info/asterix-the-gaul/>

Jessica Milner Davis

Australasian Humour Studies Network Co-ordinator

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